

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 168393

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 /032 R

DRAFTED BY OES/NET:MBKRATZER:LL

APPROVED BY OES/NET:MBKRATZER

NEA/INS:DKUX

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 168393

STADIS//////////

NEW DELHI PASS TO SCHNEIDER FROM KRATZER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, IN

SUBJECT: DECLASSIFICATION OF HUBERMAN LETTERS OF JUNE 29,
1976

1. JOINT COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY HAS REQUESTED THAT WE
DECLASSIFY JUNE 29 LETTERS FROM KRATZER TO HUBERMAN CON-
CERNING INDIAN HEAVY WATER AND PLUTONIUM RETRANSFER. AS
AMBASSADOR SAXBE IS AWARE, JCAE AND SENATOR PASTORE HAVE
BEEN SUPPORTIVE OF OUR EFFORTS ON TARAPUR EXPORT LICENSES,
AND WE WOULD LIKE TO ACCOMMODATE THEIR REQUEST INsofar
AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT COMPLICATING OUR RELATIONS WITH THE
INDIANS. COMMITTEE IS PREPARED TO HONOR ANY DELETIONS
IN TEXTS WE REQUEST, BUT HOPES THAT AS MUCH TEXT AS
POSSIBLE IN BOTH LETTERS CAN BE RELEASED.

2. THE COMMITTEE HAS REQUESTED RESPONSE BY 5 P.M.
WASHINGTON TIME JULY 8, ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE
THAT THERE WOULD BE AN EARLY RELEASE OF DECLASSIFIED
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PAGE 02 STATE 168393

TEXTS. WE ASSUME RELEASE WOULD OCCUR AFTER CONGRESSIONAL

RECESS, BUT THIS IS NOT CERTAIN.

3. TEXTS OF BOTH LETTERS WERE POUCHED TO EMBASSY WITH KUX/SCHNEIDER JULY 1 LETTER, AND HOPEFULLY ARE NOW AVAILABLE. WE BELIEVE LENGTHY LETTER ON HEAVY WATER CAN BE

DECLASSIFIED WITH THE FOLLOWING DELETIONS.

A) FIRST PARAGRAPH, PAGE 1 -- DELETE LAST PART OF FIRST SENTENCE BEGINNING WITH "AND THE QUESTION OF."

B) PAGE 5, LAST PARAGRAPH -- DELETE PARENTHETICAL EXPRESSION.

C) PAGE 6 -- DELETE ENTIRE CONCLUSION.

D) OMIT ATTACHMENT REFERRED TO ON PAGE 5.

4. IN ADDITION TO THESE DELETIONS, WE HAVE SOME CONCERN WITH INCLUSION OF SOME OF THE MORE PRECISE NUMERICAL DATA SINCE EVEN THOUGH DATA ARE NOT ATTRIBUTED TO INDIAN SOURCES, INCLUSION OF PRECISE FIGURES COULD IMPLY THAT THEY WERE OBTAINED FROM INDIA. WE BELIEVE THAT THE ONLY FIGURES THAT FALL IN THIS CATEGORY APPEAR IN THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF PAGE 2, SPECIFICALLY, THE REFERENCES TO 5,900 MEGAWATT DAYS AND 38 TONS. WE ARE PREPARED TO DELETE OR ROUND-OFF THESE FIGURES IF EMBASSY CONSIDERS IT ADVISABLE.

5. WE HAVE SOME CONCERN ABOUT DECLASSIFICATION OF SHORTER LETTER CONCERNING OUR INTENTION TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS WITH GOI ON PLUTONIUM BUY-BACK. OUR CONCERNS ARE:

A) THAT INDIANS SHOULD NOT LEARN OF OUR INTENTIONS TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH THEM THROUGH RELEASE OF THIS CORRESPONDENCE. THIS CONCERN CAN, OF COURSE, BE OVERCOME BY ADVISING THEM OF OUR INTENTIONS AT AN EARLY DATE.

B) WE WOULD PREFER THAT INDIANS NOT DRAW CONCLUSION THAT WE AGREED TO BUY-BACK DISCUSSIONS AS A CONDITION OF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 168393

SECURING ISSUANCE OF XSMN 805.

ON BALANCE, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE LETTER CAN BE DECLASSIFIED FOLLOWING ADVICE TO INDIANS OF OUR INTENTION TO DISCUSS BUY-BACK WITH THEM, PERHAPS AT AMBASSADOR MEETING WITH CHAVAN NEXT WEEK.

6. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON DECLASSIFICATION

OF BOTH LETTERS, WITH INDICATED DELETIONS IN HEAVY WATER
LETTER, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ABOVE COMMENTS. WE ALSO
ASSUME EMBASSY WOULD WANT TO ALERT INDIANS TO POSSIBLE
RELEASE OF THESE LETTERS SINCE THEY WERE EARLIER ADVISED
THAT LETTERS WERE CONFIDENTIAL. WE WOULD APPRECIATE
COMMENTS IN TIME TO MEET JCAE SCHEDULE NOTED ABOVE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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